

Washington State Auditor's Office

Audit Report

Othello Conservation District Adams County

Audit Period
January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997

Report No. 60283

Issue Date
July 9, 1999



Washington _____
State Auditor

Brian Sonntag

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Adams County
January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997**

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Description of the District

Othello Conservation District Adams County January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997

ELECTED OFFICIALS

These officials served during the audit period:

Board of Supervisors:

Chair – 1998

Richard Yanoff
Stewart Pomeroy
Paul Stoker

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Board of Supervisors:

Kurt Braunwart
George Jelmborg

District Coordinator

Dixie Fultz

ADDRESS

District

449 East Cedar
Othello, WA 99344

Audit Overview

Othello Conservation District Adams County January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997

AUDIT HISTORY

The Othello Conservation District is typically audited every three years. The current audit covers a five-year period, January 1, 1993, through December 31, 1997.

The Othello Conservation District had a fraud in 1988, where between \$4,000–\$5,000 was misappropriated. The restitution being paid by the former employee is handled through the Adams County Clerk. As a result of this fraud, the District Supervisors review all expenditures and authorize all transfers into and out of savings or other investment accounts. We believe this reflects the District's commitment to maintain a strong financial system.

CONCLUSIONS

The Othello Conservation District has complied, in all significant respects, with required state laws and regulations and its own policies in the areas we examined.

We thank District officials and personnel for their assistance and cooperation during the audit.

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with State Laws and Regulations

Othello Conservation District Adams County January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997

Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Othello Conservation District
Othello, Washington

We have audited the financial statements of the Othello Conservation District, Adams County, Washington, as of and for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994 and 1993, and have issued our report thereon dated September 15, 1998.

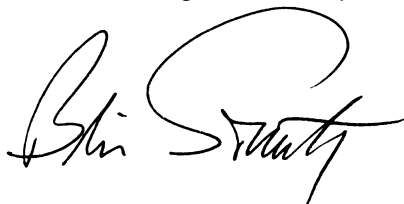
We also performed tests of compliance with state laws and regulations as required by *Revised Code of Washington* (RCW) 43.09.260. This statute requires the State Auditor to inquire as to whether the District complied with the laws and the *Constitution of the State of Washington*, its own ordinances and orders, and the requirements of the State Auditor's Office.

Compliance with these requirements is the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to make a reasonable effort to identify any instances of misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in office on the part of any public officer or employee and to report any such instance to the management of the District and to the Attorney General. However, the objective of our audit of the financial statements was not to provide an overall opinion on compliance with these requirements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of our tests indicated that, with respect to the items tested, the District complied, in all material respects, with the applicable laws and regulations referred to in the preceding paragraphs. With respect to items not tested, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the District had not complied, in all material respects, with those provisions.

However, we noted certain matters involving noncompliance not significant enough to report as findings that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated May 15, 1999.

This report is intended for the information of the audit committee, management and the Chair of the Board of Supervisors and to meet our statutory reporting obligations. This report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. It also serves to disseminate information to the public as a reporting tool to help citizens assess government operations.



BRIAN SONNTAG, CGFM
STATE AUDITOR

September 15, 1998

Independent Auditor's Report on Financial Statements and Additional Information

Othello Conservation District Adams County January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997

Chair of the Board of Supervisors
Othello Conservation District
Othello, Washington

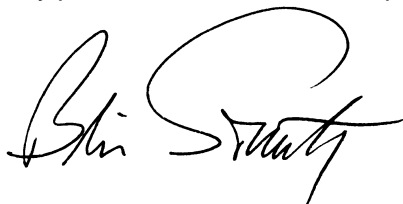
We have audited the accompanying statements of Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions of the various funds of the Othello Conservation District, Adams County, Washington, for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994 and 1993. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the District prepares its financial statements on the cash basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with Washington State statutes and the *Budgeting, Accounting and Reporting System* (BARS) manual prescribed by the State Auditor, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the recognized revenues and expenditures of the funds of the Othello Conservation District for the years ended December 31, 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994 and 1993, on the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying Schedules of State Financial Assistance are also presented for purposes of additional analysis. These schedules are not a required part of the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.



BRIAN SONNTAG, CGFM
STATE AUDITOR

September 15, 1998

Financial Statements

**Othello Conservation District
Adams County
January 1, 1993 through December 31, 1997**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions - 1997
Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions - 1996
Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions - 1995
Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions - 1994
Fund Resources and Uses Arising from Cash Transactions - 1993
Notes to Financial Statements – 1997, 1996, 1995, 1994 and 1993

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Schedule of State Financial Assistance – 1997
Schedule of State Financial Assistance – 1996
Schedule of State Financial Assistance – 1995
Schedule of State Financial Assistance – 1994
Schedule of State Financial Assistance – 1993